

IN MEMORIAM: PROFESSOR JOHN DESMOND BERNAL, F. R. S. (1901-1971)

GRAUSTARK

#248

1970BB, 1970BN, 1970BQ

25 September 1971

1970BB

"Spring 1910"

ALLIES STOP AUSTRIAN ADVANCE

In GRAUSTARK #247, the Russian build was submitted by Joseph Shuldiner, who resumed with that issue the play of Russia.

Owing to John Beshara's absence (see p. 3), these moves were adjudicated by John Boardman. It proved very difficult to locate some of the players to inform them of this change.

ENGLAND (Iasky): F Edi & F Liverpool hold.

FRANCE (Mischel): F Por-Mid; F North Atlantic S F Por-Mid; F Gas-Bre; A Bar-Gas; A Ruh-Bur; A Mun S A Ruh-Bur.

GERMANY (Isby): No moves received. A Kie & A Ber hold.

ITALY (Comber): No moves received. A Ven, A Mar, F Spa(s.c.), F Lye, & F Wes hold.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Nierenberg): F Arm-Bla; F Tri-Adr; F Mid-Eng; F North Africa-Mid; A Sil-Mun; A Tyr & A Boh S A Sil-Mun; A Gal-War; A Sev-Mos; A Ukr S A Sev-Mos; A Rum-Sev; A Con-Bul.

RUSSIA (Shuldiner): F Hol holds; F North Sea-Eng; F Bal-Den; A Liv & A Mos; A Gas S A War; A Pru S A War; A War S FRENCH A Mun-Sil.

Underlined moves are not possible. France retreats A Mun-Ruh. The deadline for "Fall 1910" moves is 6 PM, MONDAY 4 OCTOBER 1971; these moves should be sent to John Beshara. Press releases are on p.4.

"My name is Richard Milhouse Nixon, and I've got two secrets."

1970BQ

"Fall 1906"

ANGLO-ITALIAN NAVAL BATTLE RAGES

ENGLAND (Beshara): F North Africa-Tun; F Wes S F North Africa-Tun; F Mar & F Bel hold; F Nap-Rom; A Wal-Bre; F Eng C A Wal-Bre; A Mos S AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN A Sev; A Yor-Den; F North Sea C A Yor-Den; A Ruh-Mun; A Bur-Mun; F Kie-Ber; A Sil-Ber.

FRANCE (Tretick): A Pie-Ven; A Mun holds.

GERMANY (H. Anderson): A Ber S FRENCH A Mun.

ITALY (Gletty): A Apu-Nap; A Rom S A Apu-Nap; F Tun-Wes.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Mischel): A Ven S ENGLISH F Nap-Rom; A Tri S A Ven; F Alb-Gre; A Ser-Bul; A Rum S A Ser-Bul; A Sev holds.

TURKEY (Vest): A Arm-Sev; F Bla S A Arm-Sev; A Con-Bul; A Gre S A Con-Bul; F Aeg S A Gre.

Underlined moves are not possible. England must retreat F Nap-Tyr or F Nap-Ion, and Italy must retreat F Tun-Tyr or F Tun-Ion. If these two fleets retreat to the same space, both will be annihilated. These two players are asked to send in their retreats to the Gamesmaster as quickly as possible. The number of builds to be made in "Winter 1906" will depend on the directions of these retreats, so all players will be informed as soon as they come in. At that time the number and deadline of "Winter 1906" builds and removals will be announced. The High Combatant Powers now control the following supply centers:

ENGLAND: Bel, Bre, Den, Edi, Hol, Kie, Liv, Lon, Mar, Mos, Nor, Par, Por, St.P, Spa, Swe, Tun, War. (16)
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LITTLE ACTION IN EUROPE, MUCH IN HYDUNDERABAD

Following "Fall" moves, England retreats NF Norway-Norwegian Sea.

ENGLAND (H. Anderson): Removes F Por. RUSSIA (Buchanan): Builds F St.P(n.c.).
TURKEY (Barents): Builds F Smy.

The deadline for "Spring 1907" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 9 OCTOBER 1971.
ST. PETERSBURG (6 Dec. 1906): All the crown heads of Europe gathered here today to witness a historic first, the awarding of the Order of Vladimir to an institution. This award was made to BURSITIS (Bureau of Usually Reliable Sources, International Travelers, & Intelligence Spokesmen) and Vladimir was especially lavish with his praise of this Brooklyn bureau which had at last uncovered the "Vincent E. Livermore Hoax" perpetrated by Bangs Leslie Tapscott. At the close of the ceremony the Tsar asked all the assembled rulers to publicize his one million ruble award for the delivery of Bangs Leslie Tapscott to St. Petersburg, dead or alive. "It is time for this rogue to be put to rest at last," said Vladimir. "He has been at large in the Graustarkian realm far too long."

ISSHEMEAL-KEP: Sexy Saddle the Sadist Today Announced to the world that Pandit the Bandit, Bwstya, & MJIX ARE All the SAME Person, that is trying to run turkey into the mire of jmsultanism. She ended by saying "Let us return to the days when HASHSA was BLACK & everyone WAS high."

ISSMEAL-GAKA: Again we are thrown into the depths of pain and despair. The Gloominess That is once coming our Comrades AS the face the very stark and angry face of the Crimson Kings.

"When I speak to you, then and only then shall you reply"! Snapped C.K.

"I regret" continued C.K. "That you are in fact my Son. You were the Lowess, and most meaningless one I had. There is a Long story behind it, And Why MJIX and I must meet! you'll hear this story even if it kills you, understand!"

"Yes" they all Blurt out at once.

"Kingie" said Aqualang

"What!" ShAps CK.

"We don't have MJIX here."

"well bring him then"

Yes Sir" Say Aqualurg AS bAngs into the Wall and is rendered peaceful.

"Well, I'll go on MJIX CAN hear it when he comes," says C.K.

What is the sfang? (aren't you'll excited) It Better be good & It will be!

ISSHEMEAL-KEP: Sexy Saddle the SAdist today Announced that proof has been found that MJIX & Pandit the BANDIT Are the same. "Their Baa sizes mAtch up & they wear the SAME mAKE."

The Slums of ISSHEMEAL-KEP: Abaonon CLazyAjh today Announced that he wanted to go back to his wife "MAN my old LADY treated me better, At Least we mopped the floors together then."

ASSHEALA: Lorrie Lowly Leader of WLW (Warm Loving Wives) today Announced the defection of Abaonon CLazyAjh to her ranks "He was the Best wive A guy ever had!"

ISSHEMEAL-KEP: Rumor has it that Sexy Saddle is Looking for ISSMEAL-GAKA. "I'll Bet it is in Hydunderabad," said she.

HYDUNDERABAD (URRP): Maharajah Kamasutra IX, absolute monarch of this tiny Indian state, claimed today that the "Crimson King" is really Pandit the Bandit, subversive guerrilla leader of the Peristaltic Movement. "The code-name is almost too obvious," he told the press. "'Crimson' means that he is a red revolutionary, and 'King' means that he hopes to overthrow the rightful and legitimate sovereign to crown his usurping self. But the sacred principles of dynastic legitimacy will forever prevail in Hydunderabad!" The Maharajah then refused to answer a reporter's question as to how his

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MEMORIAL

Two weeks ago, John Beshara's father passed away. Since then, the Director of The Diplomacy Association has been busy with family matters and generally unable to respond with his usual celerity to inquiries by Diplomacy players. His friends are asked to bear with him until he can again spare time for what, after all, is a mere game.

GRAUSTARK will postpone until the next issue comments on the attacks made against John Beshara by the Sandy Ego Gang. Hassles like this we don't need at the moment.

THE RIP-OFF ROLL

New Diplomacy players should be warned about a small number of Gamesmasters who have a record of taking entries for games, and then not delivering with publication of the moves, or even acknowledging complaints about the money they have made off with. This is the first in a series of such warnings. Any player who believes he has been ripped off in this fashion by a Gamesmaster or publisher should write to GRAUSTARK. I will inquire of the alleged defaulter what is going on, and will let players know about the situation.

At present these three cases are the most immediate:

1. Larry Peery claims that he is now running The Diplomacy Association, and is trying to collect membership dues in it. The fact of the matter is that he has no connection with TDA leadership. He was once proposed for a place on the Board of Directors, but rejected by a 3-3 vote. In view of his attacks on TDA in Veritas Vincit this rejection proved to have been the right idea. Anyone who sends or loans Peery money should do so with the expectation of never seeing it, or any service rendered for it. John Beshara and Richard Miller have learned this the hard way; not only has Peery refused to refund them game entry fees, but he has bragged about it in his publications.

2. Rev. Gary Jones, who collected game fees on the promise that he would publish a Diplomacy 'zine called Diplogrok, has apparently disappeared. He does not answer letters sent to any of his several recent addresses, and John Beshara reports that he has been asked about Jones' present whereabouts by creditors in Tennessee who are trying to locate him.

3. When Jones' defalcation was mentioned in the last GRAUSTARK, Chuck Vest wrote in a similar complaint about another Gamesmaster. "Jeff Key has defaulted a large group of players," he writes. "I sent him a five buck game fee a year ago and the country assignments were never even made, much less the game started. He has ignored all my letters and I must assume the money is permanently gone." Jeff Key was offered a chance to respond to this accusation but failed to do so.

Accordingly, with this issue GRAUSTARK suspends trade relations with the publications of Peery, Jones, and Key, except for future issues in which their names are mentioned.

1970BQ (continued from p. 1)

FRANCE: Mun. (1)

GERMANY: Ber. (1)

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY: Bud, Bul, Rum, Ser, Sev, Tri, Ven, Vie. (8)

ITALY: Nap, Rom. (2)

TURKEY: Ank, Con, Gre, Smy. (4)

Austria-Hungary may build 2 units, and France and Turkey must each remove one. Since the game is so close to the end, they may hold off with these moves until the retreats are announced, and we all find out just how close England is to meeting the victory criterion.

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At various times Nixon has said that he wants to appoint to the Supreme Court a southerner, a Woman, and a person who agrees with his political outlook. You don't suppose - Martha Mitchell???

1970BB - PRESS RELEASES

AL-HUBRIS (via Sandy Ego): The capital of Besharabia is all a-titter over the announcement that King John-John LXIX will soon wed Biddie Trash-Heap, reigning Princess of the Disharmony Hill Tribes. King John-John, often referred to as the "Professor Moriarty of the World's Monarchs", is rated an apt spouse for Princess Biddie, who is also illiterate. It is the fervent hope of the populace that marriage will, at least temporarily, restrain King John-John from delivering his daily oration from the palace balcony and that, for the time being, he will shut up. In the past few weeks, King John-John has recounted vast and impressive victories over a number of nearby countries, including Poderkagg, Girard, and Israel, victories which would be even more impressive had they taken place. "But no one," observed Walter Krankheit on the news not long ago, "has ever accused King John-John of telling the truth. His capacity to lie is limited only by his faulty intellect." In related developments, King John-John:

1. Announced that the request of the Peace and Freedom Party for an election was again denied. "My word: you haven't a chance in hell of getting a majority. For one thing, I am the only one who knows who the voters are. For another I count the votes." Even so, voter registration continues in grave yards around the country.

2. Announced another purge of the government and of the ruling Oriental Despotism Party. To be purged: all those who do not sign an "Oath of Loyalty to King John-John No Matter What ~~HE~~ Does". These miscreants will be cast into a fiery furnace.

3. Denounced "all wrong-thinking evil-doers who won't kiss my big toe!"

4. Denounced as evil and biased all foreign newspapers which "do not admit that I am a lovable, freedom-loving, do-gooding angel of mercy."

5. Declared that all foreign newspapers which accused him of embezzling state funds would be banned from the country, thus proving that he did not embezzle state funds.

This press release has been brought to you on behalf of all those who have noticed that most releases datelined "Bore-a-Bore-a" are just that. No doubt they will continue; after all, the Ego that Talks Like a Man must be served, must it not?

BROOKLYN (URRP): The Deputy to the Ninth Assistant to the Wazir expressed pleased surprise at being asked about the latest despatch from Sandy Ego. "This is the first time since my appointment," he told the press gleefully, "that an issue insignificant enough for me to deal with has arisen."

Once roused to action, this minor official did not stint his responsibilities. "We shall have free elections," he declared. "When the Imperial Protectorate of Annam, the homeland of Sir Rodney Vitez Squawkr, also has free elections, so will Bore-a-Bore-a."

THE MINISTRY OF MISCELLANY

Rod Walker, custodian of the Walker Library of Improbable Nations, was caught up short on the references to Wogastisburg that occurred in the History of the Balkan Massif. (GRAUSTARKs #241 & 243) In a letter dated 9 August he wrote: "Yes, there is a Wogastisburg...I had forgotten all about Samo's little trading "kingdom" in Bohemia...Its location is uncertain..."

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The first bilingual English-French Diplomacy fanzine has been published. No, it's not from Canada - it's published by Michel Liesnard, Avenue Evariste de Meersman, 43; B-1080, Bruxelles, Belgium. It is called On Les Aura!, which can be roughly translated as "We'll Get 'Em". It is one dollar for six issues.

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Addresses: James E. Pyle, 1219 3rd St., Henry, Ill., 61537; Lawrence R. Valencourt, 1561 Clarence St., St. Paul, Minn. 55106; Paul J. Wood, 24613 H**mon (2 Illegible Letters), St. Clair Shores, Mich. 48080.

HISTORY OF THE FOUR AND A HALF KINGDOMS - VIII

Alfons Ignobel - II

The international prestige and national amour-propre of France seemed to need bolstering all through Ignobel's 99-year lifetime. And, for a "sufficient" financial consideration, Ignobel always rallied round with his ingenious and elaborate "Indo-China" hoax, whereby French victories from a non-existent Asian land were always invented to compensate for French defeats on battlefields, stock exchanges, or the League of Nations.

However, after Ignobel's retirement in 1925 at the age of 87, new problems developed. The "Indo-China" hoax was handled by his son Aloys, who was only 19 when he assumed this position but whose mind was sharpened by his education under his father and by his natural inheritance from his mother, Mata Hari. "The lad is noteworthy for his age," remarked President Poincaré, "but after his father's genius the son is merely competent and undramatic." One wonders what the President would have said, had he lived to see Aloys Ignobel at work in the 1960's.

However, by the 1930's things had worsened dramatically. The international economic collapse and the rise of Fascism again put France in a serious bind, and this time Ignobel's imaginary "Indo-China" seemed to be no help. In 1935, a message reached the elder Ignobel, then in retirement in the Kingdom of Pundschruck. This spot in his native Balkan Massif was more forced upon than chosen by Ignobel. His currency manipulations after World War I had rendered him persona non grata in almost every nation on earth, but Pundschruck has never developed a currency or coinage of its own, preferring to use those of its neighbors.

In haste, Ignobel took a TWA (Tin Wing Airlines, a Wogastisburg firm which claims priority of the use of these initials, having been founded in 1879) plane to Paris. After the usual crash landing, this time just outside Ljubljana, he completed the journey via the Orient Express. In Paris he hastened to the office of the Under-Minister for Colonial Public Relations (Asia), who that week was Jacques Unsongout of the National Popular Christian Socialist Reactionary Centrist Party.

The Under-Minister went directly to the point, following only a 12-course dinner, a visit to the Folies Bergères, and a night at a discreetly shuttered establishment on the Avenue Kléber. "M. le Baron," he said, "we are in a desperate situation. The franc is falling, thanks to those miserable Americans. If they can find an opportunity to destroy the international financial pattern by their own selfish actions, they will take it. At the London conference in 1933 - but the Boches are worse. This M. Hitler, instead of imprisoning the Bolcheviques and Jews like a reasonable man, is trying to create his own colonial empire. For this, of itself, we would have no objections. But he is not carving colonies in Africa or Asia - he wants to make them here in Europe. And that, M. le Baron, is not within the rules of the game!"

"I see," Ignobel replied. "French triumphs in my little invented colony will mean nothing if France is herself a colony. But, M. le Sous-Ministre, the answer is simplicity itself. Do you need money to fight the Germans? Then sell my hoax."

"How do we sell a hoax? When our victim discovers he has been-"

"No - you sell the hoax as a hoax. Other nations also need support for their prestige. Les Allemandes..."

Negotiations to sell the hoax to Germany were tentatively opened, but fell through when Hitler discovered that Ignobel's great-grandfather on his mother's side had been Chief Rabbi of Chelm. The French government then shelved the plan, although Ignobel is said to have remarked, "Eventually, mes amis, you will have to sell this to the Americans. They're the only one with any money."

In 1937 Alfons Ignobel died under mysterious circumstances, which will be further discussed in the 3rd and last article of this series. His will,

probated in Zürich, endowed with his immense fortune the prizes which bear his name.

It was then that Aloys Ignobel made his first original contribution to his father's famous fabrication, one which showed that his genius was not inferior to that of the author of the "Indo-China" hoax. As a boy he had been extremely fond of the "Fu Manchu" stories of Sax Rohmer, and now he invented a sinister, intelligent, thin, bearded Oriental to serve as a menace to French possession of "Indo-China", and to western civilization generally. This person he named "Ho Chi Minh", invented a biography for him, and put at the head of an alleged anti-colonial movement in this fictitious colony. The fact that no one had heard of this "Ho" prior to his invention Ignobel explained by saying that the man had used a number of previous names.

In 1940 France fell to the Germans, and Ignobel made sure that forged pedigrees showing Jewish ancestry were made for anyone who might betray his hoax to the Germans. He then obtained a position in the Vichy government, announced that "Indo-China" had been overrun by the Japanese, and bided his time.

After the war, French prestige was again in need of help, and again an Ignobel came to France's aid. Such Frenchmen as could not adjust to civilian life were enlisted into the Foreign Legion and sent to Corsica, where they were told they were in Indo-China, fighting the sinister forces of Ho Chi Minh. Those who failed to realize the deception were given "rear-area" billets and led to believe that the fighting was going on elsewhere. The ones who caught on quickly became the fatalities which any war must have in order to be credible.

When the Korean War ended in 1953, John Foster Dulles realized that the right wing of his party would regard it as a sell-out. Accordingly, he arranged the deal that Alfons Ignobel had predicted, and on 3 January 1954 the United States bought the "Indo-China" hoax from France at a cost of \$100,000,000, cancellation of the French war debt, and the secret of the atomic bomb. Prime Minister Mendès-France announced a French withdrawal from Indo-China, and Aloys Ignobel moved to Washington. President Eisenhower was never informed of the fraudulent character of "Indo-China"; the American end of the transaction was handled by Dulles and by Vice-President Nixon. President Kennedy was informed just after his election; Lyndon Johnson did not know this fact until March 1968, having gone through most of his period in office believing that there really is such a place as Vietnam. The State and Defense Department encouraged him in this belief, as it made his statements about "Vietnam" sound more sincere. "It's the only thing that could have done it," Herman Kahn is said to have remarked once to Joseph Alsop.

The small group of high-echelon American officials who knew the truth about "Vietnam" and the other non-existent nations of "Indo-China" used it much as Alfons Ignobel had in France. As needed to stimulate the American economy, to get surplus people and potential trouble-makers out of the way, and to give military contracts to big campaign contributors, the American "presence" in "Vietnam" was escalated. If an American politician or journalist wished actually to visit "Vietnam", he was flown to an island in the Pacific Trust Territory, where he was fed carefully prepared stories by people posing as soldiers or natives. Soldiers were sent to such places, or to a jungle region rented in the Philippines, and told that they had rear-area assignments. These men were so glad to find themselves out of the front lines that they seldom questioned any discrepancies that developed in the government's story. A secret agreement was made with China whereby one Chinese province was completely evacuated, and American airmen were sent to bomb its deserted towns. The American government claimed that great damage was done to the "Vietnamese" from the air, while the Chinese were able to keep their people in line by pointing with horror to an attack on "a neighboring country" by Americans.

As time went by, various modifications were made in the original plan. The complaints about high casualty figures meant that men who discovered the truth were not shot, but simply drugged out of their minds. In 1968 China's increasing population required more living space, and so the bombings were stopped and the Chinese province repopulated.

Aloys Ignobel's operation in Washington has become much more elaborate than his father's original concept. Thousands of employees, housed underground at Langley, Virginia, on property generally believed to belong to the CIA, are churning out vast volumes about non-existent "Vietnamese" politicians, generals, political parties and factions, religions, mountain tribes, customs, and provinces; even an artificial "Vietnamese" language has been created.

The few dangers of exposure have been neatly circumvented. George Romney once nearly got wise, and even said he had been "brainwashed" about Vietnam, but an Ignobel aide who was also a Mormon bishop carefully explained to him the effect that exposure would have on Detroit's auto industry, and he has remained silent ever since. Lyndon Johnson did not discover the truth until March 1968, when he picked up the hot line to order caviar from Russia and was accidentally cut into a conversation between Henry Kissinger and David Rockefeller. The latter's threat to foreclose his mortgage on the President's ranch forced Johnson to maintain silence and retire from the presidency. Judicious infiltration and subsidies has kept the peace movement from learning the truth. As far as is known, the only people in the peace movement who ever found out that there is no such place as Vietnam were Martin Luther King, A. J. Muste, and Joseph Yablonski. Just to play safe, the same action as in these cases was taken when Robert Kennedy won the California primary and received a congratulatory phone call from Yablonski.

However, to play safe the Pentagon has just released a series of documents designed to keep its opposition secure in the belief that Vietnam exists. These documents were published by one of Aloys Ignobel's closest collaborators and confidants - Daniel Ellsberg.

(continued in the next issue)

1970BN (continued from p. 2)

dynasty had first obtained the throne.

HYDUNDERABAD (URRP): In a press conference in his secret mountain hideout, the rebel leader Pandit the Bandit declared that the sinister "Crimson King" mentioned in Turkish despatches is really his enemy, the Maharajah Kamasutra IX. "This monarch's hands are dripping red with the blood of his people," the revolutionary said, "and the title fits him correctly." Pandit also denied that he and his twin sister are identical. "There is actually a great difference between myself and Bustya."

"Vive la difference!" cried the reporter from Agence France-Presse. He was immediately exiled for cruelty to elderly jokes.

HYDUNDERABAD (URRP): In the interests of international trade and harmony, the Maharajah today placed an order through regular commercial channels with the Turkish organization WLW (Warm Loving Wives). He ordered twenty-five of them.

HYDUNDERABAD (URRP): Pandit the Bandit claimed that Hisha Hasha, former Sultan of Turkey, was guilty of imperialistic exploitation of the natural resources of this small Indian state. "The scientific name of the crop he popularized in Turkey," said the rebel leader, "is Cannabis Indica! For years he smuggled it out of Hydunderabad through the mountain passage that provides our only link with the outside world."

HYDUNDERABAD (URRP): Maharajah Kamasutra IX announced that anyone referring to him by "the degrading abbreviation of 'MJIX'" would be beheaded.

HYDUNDERABAD (URRP): Pandit the Bandit announced that revolutionary justice would be given to anyone who tried to "humanize the savage tyrant Kamasutra IX by giving him the familiar nickname 'MJIX'".

THE MINISTRY OF MISCELLANY

It is probably general knowledge by now that at one time I released into postal Diplomacy fandom a hoax named "Eric Blake". "Blake", who operated out of a post office box in Queens, was originally created as a mail drop where I could receive various conservative publications without tipping my identity, which is on record among them. (There are entries for me in both the Van Deman and Church League of America files of "subversives".) Later, I took out a membership in the NFFF under this name, and hacked into science-fiction fanzine letter columns a few views culled out of the conservative publications "Blake" was receiving. For "Blake" I created the persona of a retired engineer, age about 60, who had spent his active career on various construction sites in the tropics including a stint in the Seabees in World War II. He liked the works of Howard, Burroughs, and Lovecraft, liked Heinlein but with reservations, and had no use for Cabell, Bradbury, and any modern fiction without a clearly recognized "Hero" in the grand tradition.

The story is probably well-known, about how I entered 1964C both as Boardman and as Blake, and after a long, tough struggle with James Goldman (who otherwise certainly would have been the winner) was the winner as Boardman. (The game ran in Brobdingnag under its first two Gamesmasters, Dick Schultz and John McCallum.) Opinion on this ploy has ranged from approval, as being in the back-stabbing tradition of the game, to disapproval as "un-ethical", mainly from people whose ethical standards are revealed by their support of the American invasion of Vietnam. While most Gamesmasters including myself now have house rules preventing this sort of thing, in those early days the "Eric Blake" hoax violated no rule of either the game of Diplomacy or its Gamesmasters.

(Since then, there have been numerous situations where Player A simply sent in whatever moves Player B wished him to. There is precedent for this in actual history; in World War I the Russian Empire played Blake to France's Boardman.)

Rod Walker's "Lenard Lakofka" hoax was considerably better constructed than "Eric Blake", and lasted longer. Although I am not certain on this point, there is probably an actual human being who if challenged could produce Social Security and other identification cards proving him to be Lenard Lakofka. However, as far as anything having to do with Diplomacy is concerned, "Lakofka" is Walker just as assuredly as "Blake" was Boardman. Walker was also more adroit in using a Chicago mail-drop for his hoax; I just had to walk a few blocks down the street from my old Queens address, and into the next postal zone, in order to pick up "Blake's" mail.

Of course, it may be that "Lenard Lakofka" is a made-up name. There was a Nobel Laureate physicist, a member of the Nazi Party, named Philipp Lenard. Walker knows very well that this name would press buttons with me, both professionally and politically. And in Yiddish, "kotschka" means "duck" while "nofka" means "whore" - their combination as "la Kofka" carries implications both ludicrous and meretricious.

Where Walker gave his hoax away was in his attacks as "Lakofka" on the Diplomacy Association. They so precisely echoed Walker's own effusions that there is no longer any point in pretending that "Lakofka" represents an entity separate from Walker.

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Speaking of Brobdingnag, after evil days under its third Gamesmaster, Eduard Hälle, it has at last been revived by Robert J. Ward, Apt. 7, 2423 P Street, Sacramento, Calif. 95816. Ward offers to trade with all other Gamesmasters, and has set a tentative subscription rate of 10 issues for \$1 pending clarification of the status of the Brobdingnag games. My files lack issues 100 through 115, and will apparently continue to lack them, as Hälle seems to have vanished into thin air.

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At a time when an overwhelming majority of Americans have rejected the war with Vietnam, it must be a great comfort to the government to find one organization still solidly behind the war effort. In its publication, it states that "In Indochina the United States has for six years conducted a massive military intervention on a rigidly limited basis in extremely unfavorable circumstances without once attempting to break through those self-imposed limitations as a means of winning the war." Blithely dismissing the systematic massacres of civilians, he goes on to blame the peace movement for prolonging the war, calls pacifism a Communist front, calls the Democratic hopes for withdrawal "a suicidal over-commitment to capitulation in Vietnam", and complains that this movement has taken over "the Democrats (and) almost the entire country as well."

Who is this sterling Hawk, who has so resolutely kept the faith at a time when even Richard Nixon finds it politically expedient to pretend that he wants American troops out of Vietnam? Is it some Young American for Freedom? One of George Meany's hacks in the AFL-CIO? Robert Welch? George Wallace?

Hardly. The defense of the Vietnam War just quoted was written by Tom Milstein, a member of the Socialist Party, in the 30 July 1971 issue of its official publication, New America. The Social "Democrats" are, more than half a century after they proudly marched off to World War I, maintaining their policy of upholding America's rulers against every threat to their power. When put to the test between defending capitalism and defending its opponents, the Social "Democrats" can be counted on to come through every time.

Those people who, incredibly, have found things to admire in the life and policies of Norman Thomas, will probably be glad to know that his organization is now supporting the presidential candidacy of Henry Jackson, "the Senator from Boeing", who is seeking the 1972 Democratic nomination in the interests of that corporation which has long commanded his first loyalties, and which now sees its profits endangered by the threat of peace. (Evans and Novak, New York Post, 13 August 1971) The League for Industrial Democracy, headed by Michael Harrington of the Socialist Party, is circulating at AFL-CIO meetings an article by one Penn Kemble supporting American policy in Vietnam. Bayard Rustin, a long-time apologist for the Johnson administration and a Socialist Party member, is also involved in this business. (New York Daily World, 25 & 27 August & 2 September 1971)

This is
O At
P Great
E Intervals
R This
A Appears
T To
I Inflamm
O Optic
N Nerves

Not that it will make any difference to the war gang in Washington, but according to the Harris Survey (New York Post, 23 August 1971) a majority of the American people agrees with the statement that "the U. S. has achieved little by going to war to save other countries, and in the future we should let other countries defend themselves". Several specific "other countries" were mentioned, and in almost every case the people opposed going to war to prevent their occupation by the Communists, or by whatever other enemy seemed plausible. Results were:

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Come to the defense of:	Yes	No	Come to the defense of:	Yes	No
Canada	77%	12%	South Korea	25%	54%
Western Europe	47%	31%	any Latin American country	21%	50%
Australia	40%	38%	Taiwan (Formosa)	18%	58%
West Berlin	32%	47%	Yugoslavia	11%	66%
Israel	25%	52%			

People are still willing by a margin of 95%-2% to come to the aid of the United States itself if it is attacked. Those who find an unpleasant contrast between the great enthusiasm for the Second World War and the distaste for the Vietnamese War should note that World War II was the only time in American history when this country went to war because of a direct attack by a foreign power on American territory. Any future such attack would produce a similarly popular war.

Now that these opinions are on record, what will happen? Absolutely nothing is what. The history of the past decade proves that public opinion has no influence whatsoever on the people who decide to make war. The peace movement may as well congratulate itself on its moral victory, because that is the only kind it is going to have. It is painfully obvious by now that this war is going to continue as long as there is an Asian to kill or a dollar to be made killing him. Prudent persons should adjust their behavior accordingly.

And, after all, what really does change? On 19 August 1971 the New York Times marked the 75th anniversary of Adolph Ochs's accession to its publishership by reprinting the front page of the issue of 19 August 1896. It contained the following items:

1. A Madison Square Garden rally of "patriotic" Democrats who protested that their party had been taken over by a bunch of fanatics. The Times praised the decorum of this rally by contrast to the wild tumults of the Populistic faction.
2. A man injured in a bicycle accident had his pocket picked as he lay unconscious.
3. Askirmish in a pacification program against various tribal malcontents who refused to accept American rule.

4. A cab driver who allegedly kicked a boy in the face was barely rescued by police from a mob in the slum where the boy lived.
5. In a mining town in Ohio, there were four casualties in a riot between workmen of different ethnic stocks.
6. The Elgin Sewing Machine and Bicycle Factory went bankrupt, throwing over 100 men out of work.
7. The mansion of a wealthy man in Massachusetts was completely destroyed by arson.
8. A Democratic presidential candidate refused to make public his personal finances, but denied that he was being employed by industrialists who would profit if his platform became law. He then went fishing.
9. A woman who lived alone in her store was robbed and murdered.
10. In Schenectady, a 16-year-old boy shot an 11-year-old boy, causing him to lose one eye, for no apparent reason.

*

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*

In case anyone was wondering, the article "Technical Expostulation of Tri-Focal Induction", which appeared under the name "Lenard Lakofka" in Costaguana Vol. 5, #7, is utter gibberish. Details from a physicist's point of view were sent to publisher von Metzke.

*

"Nobody knows what it means but 'oontz' is outlawed in Louisville. Mayor Frank W. Burke came across the word while pursuing the state gambling laws which forbid such things as keno, faro, cards and craps - and oontz...The mayor would like to have a definition to pass along to the Police Dept. Somebody might be oontzing." - New York Post, 1 March 1971

*

"In the Coventry Guild accounts
For stage-props and attire
This item stands among the many
That Miracle Plays require:

'To Jonathan Williams, fourpence
For settinge ye Worlde on fyre.'"
- Graeme Wilson, New York Times,
30 July 1971

GRAUSTARK #248

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"One man, one vote!"
- President Nguyen Van Thieu